

REMARKS

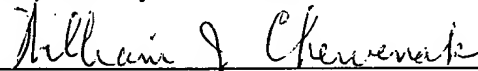
Amended claim 17 now contains the limitation that attenuation at 1550 nm is less than 0.25 dB/km. Such an attenuation is impossible using the glass disclosed in XP-002141764 because that glass contains 2000 ppm of OH⁻. It is well known in the art that such high OH⁻ concentration is not compatible with low attenuation optical waveguide fiber. See, for example, Electro-optics Handbook, McGraw-Hill, Inc., 1994, Chapter Twelve, Page 12.35, Table 12.2, Figure 12.19. (Copy enclosed)

CONCLUSION

Based on the above Amendments and Remarks, applicant hereby respectfully requests the entry of the above amendments prior to the issuance of the International Preliminary Examination Report.

Replacement pages 15 and 16 of the claims are attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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